

Applicant appreciates the Office Action's assertion that claims 2-5, 10, 14-17 and 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, for the reasons discussed below, Applicant asserts that all of claims 1-36 are allowable over the applied references.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 6-9, 11-13, 18-21, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mochizuki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,501,477) (hereinafter "Mochizuki") in view of Konoe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,319,119) (hereinafter "Konoe"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As admitted on page 2 of the Office Action, Mochizuki fails to disclose Applicant's image generation system with parts sequentially moved through a physical simulator based on a transmitted hit information as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 8, 9, 13, 20 and 21. The Examiner then applies Konoe, on page 3 of the Office Action, to overcome the deficiencies of Mochizuki. However, Konoe is not prior art. The filing date of PCT/JP00/03589 and Japanese Patent Application No. 11-17132, from which Applicants claim priority, is June 2, 2000 and June 17, 1999, respectively. The 102(e) date of Konoe is July 10, 2000. Accordingly, Konoe is not prior art.

Accordingly, Applicant asserts that Mochizuki alone fails to disclose or suggest other features cited in Applicants' independent claims or dependent claims. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:TMN/dmw

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Attachment:
Amendment Transmittal

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